

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION FROM  
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTSDATE OF  
INFORMATION 1951

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Economic - Agriculture, forestry

DATE DIST. 1 Aug 1951

HOW  
PUBLISHED Daily newspapersWHERE  
PUBLISHED China

NO. OF PAGES 4

DATE  
PUBLISHED 18 Feb - 22 Mar 1951SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE Chinese

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF ESPIONAGE ACT 50 U. S. C. 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

CHINESE COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT INAUGURATES  
PROGRAM OF AFFORESTATION AND CONSERVATION

At the recent National Forestry Conference in Peiping it was reported that 446 million trees were planted in China in 1950. To permit forest growth, 3,280,000 mou (1 mou equals 1/6 acre) of mountain land have been sealed off. In Manchuria and Inner Mongolia, 4,500,000 cubic feet of lumber were cut with a saving of 300,000 cubic feet being effected by use of Soviet methods.

A forest-fire-prevention directive of the Central People's Government states that forest-fire damage during 1950 amounted to more than half the total cut for the year.

A directive of the Central and South China Military and Administrative Committee emphasizes the importance of spring tree planting. Afforestation is encouraged (1) to build up commercial timber reserves, (2) to protect watersheds and reduce flood damage, and (3) to provide ample quantities of fruits and other commercially important tree crops such as tung oil, camphor, etc.

NATIONAL FORESTRY CONFERENCE SUMMARIZES 1950 RESULTS -- Hankow, Ch'ang-chiang Jih-pao, 18 Feb 51

Peiping, 16 February (Hsin-hua) -- The National Forestry Conference, which convened in Peiping on 15 February 1951, reported progress made during the 1950 program of forest protection and use of the Central People's Government, People's Republic of China. During 1950, 446 million trees were planted throughout the country. Data from 17 provinces indicate that 3,280,000 mou of mountain lands were sealed off to prevent uneconomic exploitation of timber.

By early March 1950, the Northeast and Inner Mongolia had completed their timber-cutting goal of 4,500,000 cubic feet of lumber for the 1949 - 1950 winter season. By employing Soviet methods of felling and handling over 300,000 cubic feet of lumber were saved, as compared with 1949.

- 1 -

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

STATE	X	NAVY	X	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION	CONFIDENTIAL												
ARMY	X	AIR	X	FBI															

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

The efforts of the party and authorities on all levels to protect forests showed favorable results in a general recognition by the people of the importance of the program. Nationwide forest inspection got under way. A planned program of forestry cadre training was begun under the direction of the Ministry of Forestry and Land Reclamation.

During 1950, 2,700 forest fires were reported, with a resulting loss of 2,600,000 cubic feet of timber, accounting for 98 percent of the total forestry loss for the year. Thus fire prevention is now the most important prevention campaign to be waged.

In some areas, poor methods of afforestation resulted not only in failures to meet goals but actual setbacks to the program. Much timber thievery was reported during 1950, as well as wasteful cutting and use of timber. The 120 persons attending the conference included representatives from the regional administrative areas, provincial forestry authorities, technical cadres, forestry educational workers, and ministry representatives.

ADMINISTRATION COUNCIL ISSUES FIRE-PREVENTION DIRECTIVE -- Hankow, Ch'ang-chiang Jih-pao, 22 Mar 51

In view of the heavy losses resulting from forest fires during 1950, amounting to more than half the total timber cut for the year, the Government Administration Council has issued a special directive ordering strict prohibition of brush and grass fires in the neighborhood of forests. The organization of special inspection units to enforce the directive is also called for.

SOUTHWEST SECOND FORESTRY AREA IN IMPORTANCE -- Hankow, Ch'ang-chiang Jih-pao, 22 Mar 51

Chungking, 20 March (Hsin-hua) -- Forest-protection service is being organized on a carefully planned basis in Southwest China. Heavy forests cover more than 26 million hectares of land in the region. The potential timber yield is estimated at 1.7 billion cubic meters, which makes this area the second largest timber-producing area in China. The most important stands are in the border areas of Szechwan, Sikang, and Yunnan in the valleys of the Ya-lung Chiang (1) [numbers in parentheses refer to appended characters], Chin-sha Chiang (2), Lantsang Chiang (3), and Ch'ing-i Chiang (4).

Forest-protection committees and cells have been organized in all areas adjacent to forests. In Sikang and Kweichow provinces, 540 such committees and cells are functioning. These organizations carry out frequent patrols of forest areas to discover fire hazards, illegal timber cutting, and destruction by lawless landlords. The Southwest Military and Administrative Committee has adopted a policy of planned exploitation of forests. Its basic principle is to limit the amount cut in any one year to an amount equal to that replaced by growth. All large-scale lumbering will be done by the state-operated lumber company. All lumber companies must obtain operating permits for lumbering operations from the local forestry authorities.

The Southwest authorities plan to seal off for growth 1,420,000 mou of mountainous land, plant 45,000 mou, and devote 1,450 mou to seedlings.

North and east Szechwan, Yunnan, and Kweichow are instituting programs for afforestation with economically important trees which produce tung oil, tea, lacquer, camphor, and quinine. Sixty thousand trees have already been planted in north Szechwan.

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

SOUTH AND CENTRAL CHINA FORESTRY DIRECTIVE -- Hankow, Ch'ang-chiang Jih-pao, 18 Mar 51

The Central and South China Military and Administrative Committee has issued the following directive concerning a forestry program:

1. Afforestation is essentially a matter for mass action. The best time to promote this program is before the spring planting season rush begins. A week of promotional and educational effort should be carried out in the meetings of the various peasant organizations.

In areas where land reform has been carried out, cooperation between public and private agencies and among private agencies should be inaugurated. The spring program should be completed by Arbor Day.

2. Afforestation should be undertaken to provide future protection from floods, droughts, and wind and sand storms. On a permanent basis, trees should be planted that are suited to soil and climate. The upper reaches of the various rivers of South and Central China should be afforested to help control the water supply. All forestry agencies and local governments should cooperate in this enterprise. Financial aid should be given to private nurserymen as well as to public nurseries. Local authorities should assume responsibility for mobilizing people for afforestation. A plan of rotated sealing off of mountain forests to prevent wanton cutting should be carried out.

3. Attention should be paid to development of economically important tree crops, such as tung oil, bananas, bamboo, camphor, tea, tallow, walnuts, and dates. The populace should be encouraged by rewards to develop and preserve extensive groves of such trees, since they are very important to both the local and national economy.

4. Development of leadership in forestry is exceedingly important. Scientific selection of seed, planting, and care of trees is indispensable to securing the desired results. Contests should be promoted and organized and publicity given to areas and persons showing outstanding performance in the program. Efforts should be made to create for the program a steady, consistent enthusiasm.

HUPEH PROVINCE PUSHES AFFORESTATION -- Hankow, Ch'ang-chiang Jih-pao, 11 Mar 51

A province-wide campaign is being pushed in Hupeh Province to promote progress in popular forestry programs. Last winter, the Wu-ch'ang nurseries bought 2,000 catties of Ma-wei-sung (horsetail pine) and 30,000 catties of Ma-li seeds to be able to supply various areas throughout the province in the spring. Through various organizations, a popular movement to improve and protect forests has been started. The Wu-ch'ang nurseries have provided 4 million seedlings and 30,000 pounds of forest-tree seeds to aid in the movement.

The Ying-shan Hsien government has used a portion of its local tax grain to purchase 1,200,000 seedlings to distribute in the experimental land-reform districts. Planting of these is now going on. The Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Department has set aside 70 million yuan for the purchase of seedlings from private nurseries. Nursery cooperatives are being promoted by propaganda units dispatched throughout the province.

The Central and South China Coal and Building Materials Company, the lumber depot of the Ministry of Fuel Industry of the Central People's Government, and various coal-mining companies have ignored the government directive for unified lumber purchases and have been carrying on competitive purchasing. This has encouraged some people to cut timber indiscriminately, and some landlords to steal timber. The Hupeh provincial government has now issued an order to the

- 3 -

CONFIDENTIAL

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

local governments to freeze the purchases made by the above companies and enforce unified purchasing. Several thousand mou of seedlings have been planted in the neighborhood of Wuhan this spring. Students and teachers of Chung-yuan University in Wu-ch'ang and the Hupeh Agricultural Institute have been planting 560,000 trees on the nearby hills.

The Cheng-chou, Honan, Railway Bureau is planting 800,000 trees along its right of way to protect the roadbed.

It is reported that during the winter 8,000 mou were planted with various oaks, such as bitter oak [*Quercus sclerophylla*] and chestnut-leaved oak [*Quercus chinensis*] in Kiangsi.

NORTH KIANGSU ORDERS VAST AFFORESTATION PROGRAM -- Shanghai, Hsin-wen Pao, 13 Mar 51

The North Kiangsu and Huai-yin Special Administrative Districts are planning to plant more than 6.5 million trees during 1951. The varieties will be those common to the various areas, such as mulberry, acacia, elm, willow, and ch'un (*cedrela chinensis* Juss). They will be placed in soil best suited to their growth. Cadres are instructed to take the lead in planting, as well as in organizing the farmers to engage in individual planting.

#### CHARACTERS

1. 雅 礮 江
2. 金 沙 江
3. 瀾 滄 江
4. 青 衣 江

- E N D -

- 4 -

CONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL**